

## **APPENDIX C SAMPLE SIGN PLAN**

### **PIPESTONE NATIONAL MONUMENT**

#### **SIGN PLAN**

*June, 1981*

#### **I. *Descriptive Material***

##### **A. Description of Monument**

1. Description: Pipestone National Monument, an area of 281.78 acres, is located in southwestern Minnesota adjacent to the city of Pipestone. The area preserves the noted Pipestone (catlinite - an unusual red stone) Quarries in their natural virgin prairie setting.
2. Function: The purpose of Pipestone National Monument is twofold: to preserve and manage the ethnological, historical, archeological, and geological resources of the area for the betterment and enjoyment of all; and to manage the pipestone quarries so as to provide the American Indian with free access to the pipestone to quarry, fashion, and carve from it the articles relating to his culture.
3. Objectives:
  - a. To preserve and protect the ethnological and historical resources of Pipestone National Monument in a manner that assures their continued integrity.
  - b. To perpetuate and protect the natural resources of Pipestone National Monument, including the virgin prairie, Lake Hiawatha, Pipestone Creek, and the woodland environments, in a manner which minimizes, to the greatest extent possible, disturbances of natural processes, except where necessary to ensure the continuation of quarrying activities. The virgin prairie and Pipestone Creek will be managed as cultural as well as natural resources.
  - c. To foster appreciation and understanding of the traditions and handicrafts of the Upper Midwest Indians, primarily those of the plains and woodland tribes, and their contributions to America's cultural heritage.
  - d. To cooperate with State and local government agencies, private groups and individuals, adjacent landowners, and members of the public, in preserving and perpetuating the cultural and natural resources of the Monument; in ensuring that developments and activities in the vicinity of the Monument are compatible with the area's purpose; and in ensuring the availability of adequate information and services for the visiting public.
  - e. To cooperate and maintain close liaison with American Indian groups and individuals who actively support or engage in area programs, including onsite handicraft demonstrations and quarrying activities, to ensure compliance with the legislative mandate, compatibility with other park objectives, and a harmonious relationship with the Indian people.
  - f. To ensure the availability of appropriate developments for area administration, visitor use, and cultural activities, including facilities which support the operation of the Upper Midwest Cultural Center and the quarries, at the highest standard possible for the safety and protection of visitors and employees, and in a manner consistent with resource management objectives.

- g. To encourage and participate in efforts to acquire information and data on the historical and archeological resources, the quarrying operations, and the natural resources of Pipestone National Monument, through research and other means, in order to facilitate development of the best possible strategies for (1) preserving and managing the cultural resources, in particular, the catlinite quarries, (2) perpetuating and restoring the prairie and other natural resources, and (3) enhancing opportunities for resource-compatible public use and enjoyment.
4. Characteristics: The Monument is gently rolling land in a portion of a shallow glacial valley. The natural resource base of Pipestone National Monument consists basically of tall grass prairie. The prairie is bisected in a north-south line by the 15-foot high quartzite outcrop in the eastern quarter and by the Pipestone Quarry line near the middle of the Monument. Trees and shrubs are common along these two areas giving certain portions of the park a forested appearance. Pipestone Creek bisects the area from east to west in approximately the middle of the park and forms a 12-foot falls as it goes over the quartzite ledge and also forms a small lake near the quarry line.
- B. Scope of Sign Plan
1. Description: The overall purpose of the Sign Plan at Pipestone National Monument is to provide for the systematic and uniform upkeep of the sign system. This is to be achieved by complying with the guidelines, rules and procedures set forth in the "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)" and further supplemented by the "National Park Service Sign Manual".
- The specific purpose of the Pipestone National Monument Sign Plan is to provide a system of signs which will:
- a. Inform visitor how and where to enter the Monument.
  - b. Safely route arriving visitors to the Monument's designated parking areas.
  - c. Guide him/her to areas that will provide basic orientation and interpretive information about the Monument's environmental and historical resources and facilities.
  - d. Warn and inform the visitor so his/her visit will be as safe and enjoyable as possible.
  - e. Provide for a safe and understandable exit from trail and Visitor Center to parking area where he can get further information and depart the Monument.
2. Identification: The sign system is comprised of four categories identified and treated as follows:
- a. Entrance signs - These signs inform the visitor that they have entered the Monument. At present there are two entrance signs in the Monument and there is no need for more. Both signs are of routed pine and have orange lettering on a brown background.
  - b. Vehicular signs - There are very few vehicular signs in the Monument because the entrance road is so short. The signs that are necessary on the road and in the parking lot will conform to MUTCD standards and the NPS Sign Manual.

- c. Interpretive/Informative signs - This is the largest category of signs. All signs in this group inform the visitor on facilities and areas open to them or the signs interpret the Monument's features on the trail. Most of these signs are made of routed pine, with orange lettering on a brown background.
  - d. Pedestrian signs - This category includes all directional and warning signs located throughout the Monument meant to be viewed by pedestrians. The signs are routed pine with orange letters on a brown background.
- C. Park Resources: The primary resource of the Monument, the one for which it was established, is to preserve the noted Pipestone (catlinite - an unusual red stone) Quarries in their natural virgin prairie setting. American Indians have obtained stone from the noted quarries for centuries to make pipes for ceremonial and social use, making the Monument an area of ethnological, archeological and historical significance.

There are 42 active quarries and a number of old, inactive quarries in the Monument. The pipestone layer is sandwiched between harder layers of Sioux quartzite and the top layer must be removed before the pipestone can be reached. Pipestone is also found in other areas but has only been quarried extensively here.

The natural history of the area is rich in Indian lore and legends. Most of the 282 acres of the Monument is virgin prairie with the balance in vegetated woodland, creek bottom lands, and the Quartzite ledge. Because there is such a diversity of habitats, the Monument abounds with birds in a great variety. Some species that occur are several ducks, woodpeckers and ring-necked pheasants. Mammals in the Monument include white-tailed deer, beaver, muskrat, fox and other small species. Pipestone Creek which runs through the park contains suckers, northern pike, sunfish, bullheads and bass. There are also painted and snapping turtles and at least one variety of salamander.

Historic features are limited and consist mostly of sites with no surface remains. Such features are the Indian campsites and old quarrying pits.

- D. Available Public Facilities: The Monument facilities are comprised of: Visitor Center/Cultural Center with a slide presentation, a sales display area, and live cultural demonstrations of pipemaking and other crafts; 60-car parking lot; self-guiding paved trail to points of interest in the park; and a picnic area with facilities that can handle up to 70 picnickers. Camping is not allowed in the park.

In the surrounding Pipestone, Minnesota area there are many city parks with good picnicking facilities. Private and public campgrounds are available and within a 30-minute drive are three state parks and one large county park, all with picnicking and camping facilities.

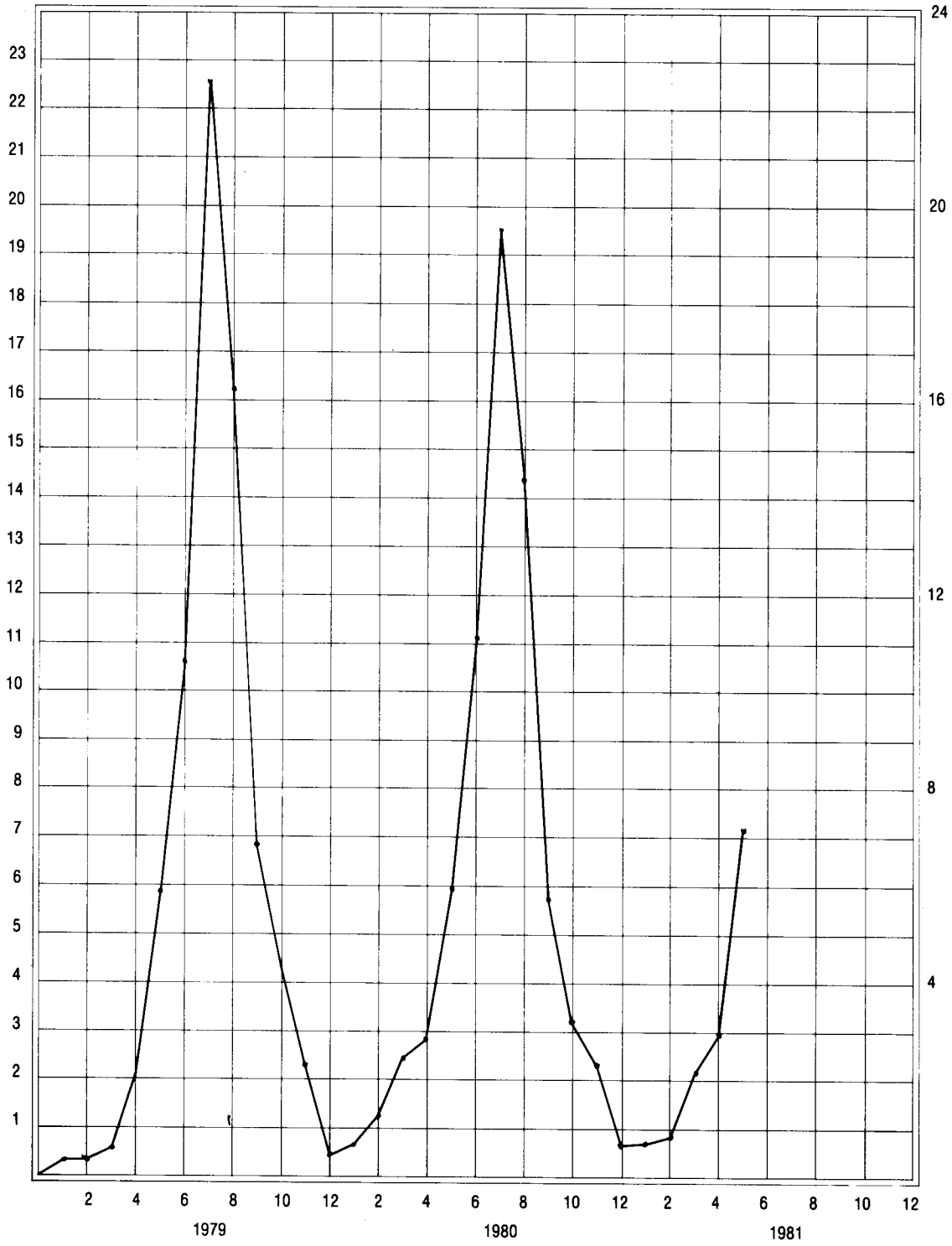
Public transportation into the area is not good; an estimated 90% of the visitors arrive by private automobile. Most towns in the area are small and agriculture-oriented; therefore, accommodations are not too plentiful.

#### E. Statistics

1. Regional: The Monument is located in Pipestone County, Minnesota. The

# MONTHLY VISITATION PATTERNS

1979 - MAY, 1981



county has a total population of 12,000. Within 150 miles of Pipestone, the major centers of population are:

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Mankato, MN     | 31,000 |
| Marshall, MN    | 11,000 |
| Worthington, MN | 11,000 |
| St. Cloud, MN   | 42,000 |
| Sioux Falls, SD | 72,000 |
| Brookings, SD   | 18,000 |
| Ft. Dodge, IA   | 31,000 |
| Sioux City, IA  | 85,000 |

The large regional urban areas of Minneapolis-St. Paul, Omaha-Council Bluffs and Des Moines are in the 200-250 mile radius.

The total population within the 200-mile radius of the Monument is 2.5 million in five states: Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota.

The people who influence the Monument are in a 5-mile radius. Since the Monument is located on the north limits of the city of Pipestone, management decisions often have an effect on the community. Conversely, events within the community influence Monument management.

2. **Park Visitor:** The Monument is usually not a destination, although visitor use has increased steadily over the years. Visitors representing every State utilize the Monument and this widening of the radius of the use area continues to increase with the completion of I-90. Visitation peaked in 1976 and has been steady since. Early 1981 reports show that visitation is up 23% from last year and is also above the 1976 total for the same time period. The typical visitor to the Monument spends 2-3 hours, visits the museum, views the slide show and walks the self-guiding trail.
3. **Group Use:** The Monument has two basic types of tour groups--school (organized) and commercial (senior citizen and other) that visit the site. School group tours take place predominately in the Spring. Senior citizen and other commercial tours are usually scheduled so they will coincide with the annual showing of the Hiawatha Pageant, located on the south boundary of the Monument.
4. **Educational Groups:** School groups comprise the majority of educational use visitors, represent all age groups, and for the most part visit the Monument in April or May. The usual group size is 35-40. Virtually all school groups visit the Monument as their intended destination.
5. **Park Logo:** No distinctive park logo has been designed for the Pipestone National Monument nor is one recommended. The number of signs on which such a logo could be justifiably utilized is minimal.

## II. *Sign Survey and Inventory*

- A. **Quality, Quantity and Categories:** The attached sheets (Part II) provide a complete inventory of all the in-place signs found in the Pipestone National Monument Sign System. Most signs that are in the Monument are made by maintenance staff when required for replacement.

All signs are in good to excellent condition and if not, they will be replaced promptly. The quantity of signs by category is as follows:

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| Information    | 24       |
| Interpretation | 23       |
| Regulatory     | 10       |
| Warning        | 3        |
| Entrance       | 2        |
| NPS Emblem     | 2        |
| Total          | <hr/> 64 |

- B. Interpretive Signs and Wayside Exhibits: The Monument currently has one wayside/interpretive exhibit located on the southern boundary beside the picnic grounds. This exhibit tells the legend of the "Three Maidens" who are supposedly lying beneath five large, granite boulders located next to the exhibit.

Various other interpretive signs, largely identifying nature and Indian legends, along with a taped presentation (exhibit quarry), help to facilitate the visitor conducting a self-guided walking tour of the Monument.

- C. Advertisement Signage: Directional signs have been provided on Interstate 90 by the Minnesota Dept. of Transportation. The City of Pipestone provides directional markers at most main highway junctions in town.
- D. Trail Markers: The trail at Pipestone National Monument is basically self-guiding. Visitors may choose whether to follow the trail marker arrows or pick up a Circle Trail guide booklet at the front desk.
- E. NPS Protection and Regulation: The use of protection and regulation signage, other than traffic control, is limited within the historic site, but important. The two warning signs in the Monument are set at strategic locations beside quarries where the visitors could slip and injure themselves on the loose, rocked, steep-sided quarries.

### III. *Location Plan*

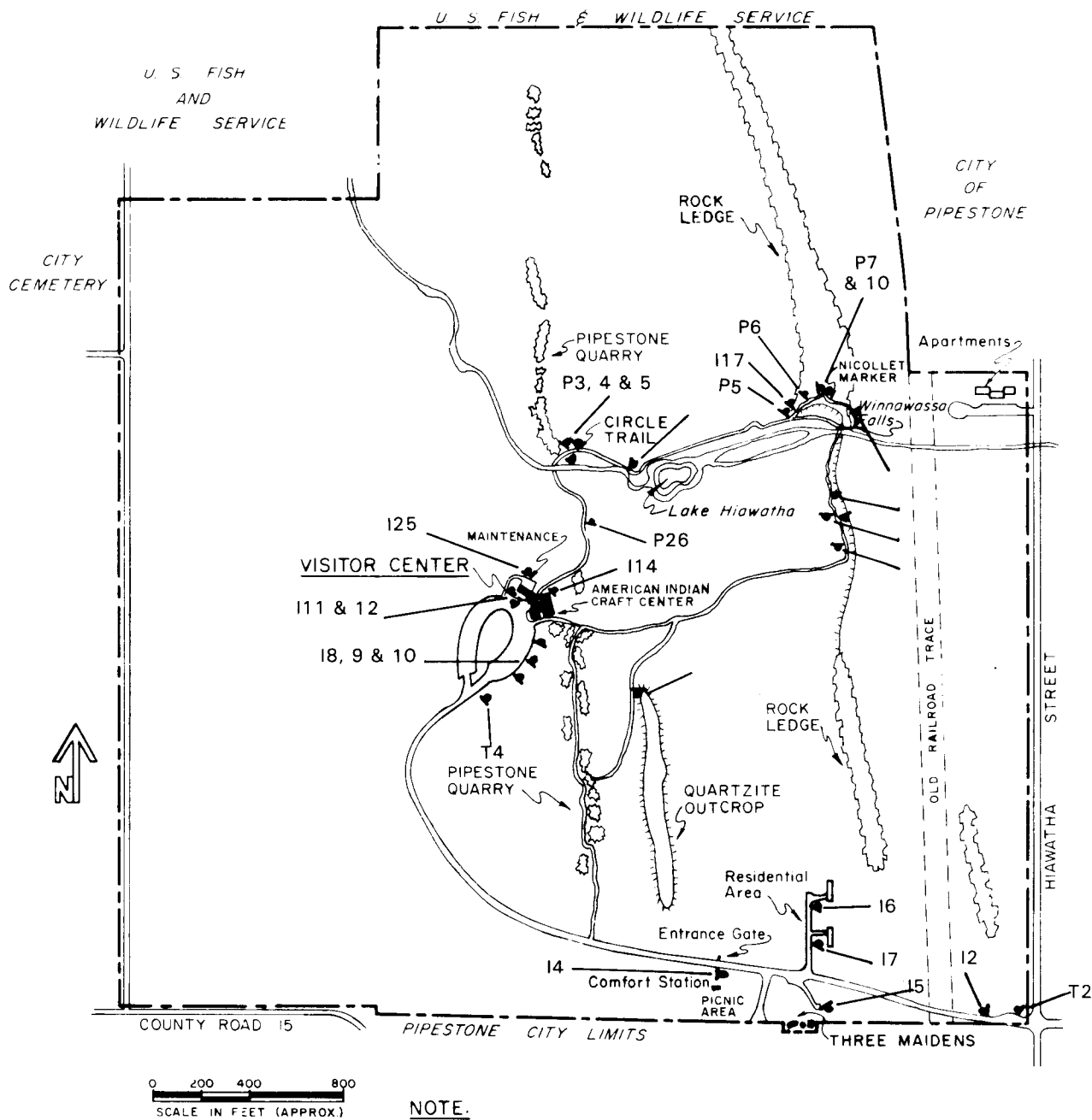
A total of 64 signs, as depicted on the Monument's sign location plan (page 9), currently comprise the in-place sign system for the historic site. The sign messages are as found on the Sign Survey and Inventory sheets and the sign photographs. Since almost all signs are made as needed, none are kept in storage.

### IV. *Summary*

The Pipestone National Monument's existing sign system is consistent in carrying out the objectives of the historical site while at the same time complying with the MUTCD and NPS Sign Manual.

This sign plan will have no adverse effects on archeological resources within the historic site. Any modification of ground surfaces during project implementation will be properly monitored for the presence of archeological remains. The Superintendent will be promptly notified if any do occur.

The signage in conjunction with the self-guiding folder is relied upon to properly orient, motivate and safely move the visitor throughout the site and at the same time provide proper interpretation for a safe, enjoyable visit at Pipestone National Monument.



**NOTE.**

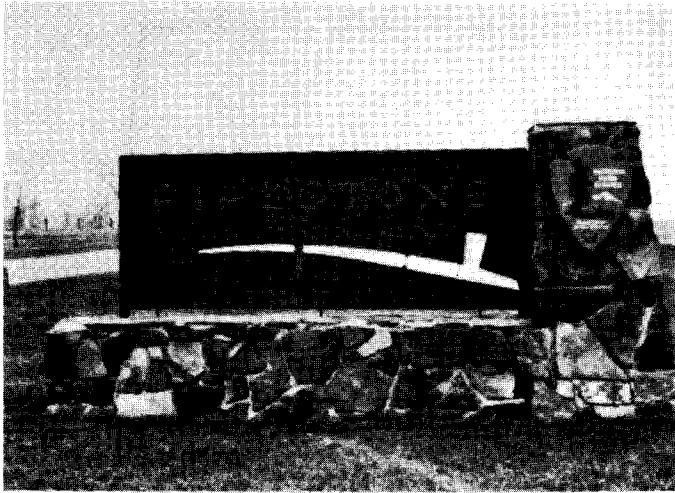
ALL LAND WITHIN NPS BOUNDARY IS IN HISTORIC ZONE.

----- NPS BOUNDARY

STATEMENT FOR MANAGEMENT

**EXISTING MANAGEMENT ZONING and BOUNDARY MAP**

PIPESTONE NATIONAL MONUMENT  
PIPESTONE COUNTY, MINNESOTA



E - 1, I - 1



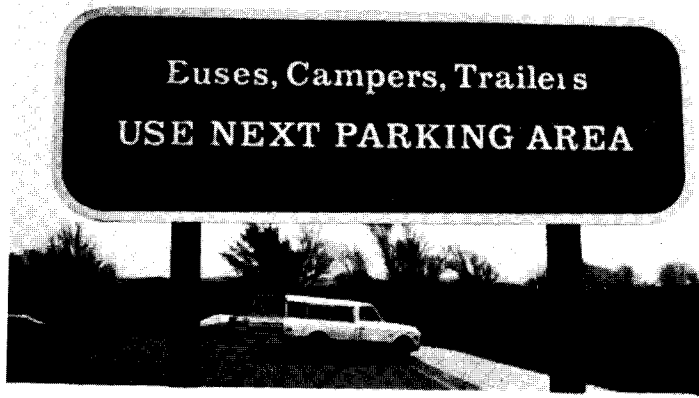
E - 7



T - 1



T - 3



T - 4



T - 2



P - 1



P - 2, P - 6,  
P - 7, P - 8

- S I G N P L A N -

PIPESTONE NATIONAL MONUMENT

PIPESTONE, MINNESOTA

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